

COAL CREEK WATERSHED COALITION
8/8/05 Steering Committee minutes
9-11 am CB Town Hall

Attendance: LC Adams, John Hess, Tyler Martineau, Karen Shirley, Harvey Castro and Steve Glazer

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, 9/12 at 1:30pm at CB Town Hall. The agenda for this meeting will be to review the applications for the Project Manager's position and to review the Town's Watershed Protection Ordinance.

The Citizens Advisory Group meeting has been set for Wed., 9/13 from 2-4pm. EPA will announce this meeting and put out an agenda.

There was a discussion about the upcoming mini-tab training scheduled for September 30, 2005 in Gunnison. Tyler, Shannon and Harvey plan to attend.

Steve handed out cd-roms of the final watershed plan. John Hess also handed out hard copies to those present.

Steve indicated that all expenses associated with training or otherwise for the CCWC will be handled on a reimbursement basis by turning in receipts to John Hess. Discussion ensued about whether or not the grant covered travel expenses. John indicated he believes this will come out of his travel budget.

Steve indicated that the State of Colorado has adopted new standards for various constituents, both for acute and chronic that are significantly more stringent.

The USGS lab detection limits are as follows for constituents of interest:

Aluminum 1.6
Cadmium 0.04
Calcium 0.02
Copper 0.4
Iron 6.0
Lead 0.08
Magnesium 0.008
Manganese 0.2
Silver 0.2
Zinc 0.6

The group discussed the various options and possibilities for sampling/monitoring training. Three options currently exist: RiverWatch, Steve Renner's folks and EPA.

There is a River Watch Training October 19th to 22nd in Grand Junction. The benefit of this program is the labwork is free of charge and sampling equipment is provided. We still need to know more about how their lab handles specific detection limits. The limitation with this option is that they do not do all of the parameters, in particular gas and oil. Larry agreed to find out where oil and gas analysis could be done and the costs associated with it.

Steve Renner has also offered to train volunteers but this would not occur until spring. This training would be done in conjunction with Dan Belay. We would have to put together our own sampling kits and there is no lab analysis. However, Joe Ryan with CU has offered to do the lab work at \$35 per analysis.

Final option is to have EPA do lab work. Christina has agreed that as long as she/we can

somehow connect this to the Superfund site they can do most of the sampling that we want at no charge. Christina and other EPA folks would train volunteers but again not likely until spring. EPA is currently sampling in the end of September. They will collect samples at only some of the 23 desired sites but will analyze all sites if we provide samples to them.

Discussion ensued about the need to know both the concentration and the loading, so need to have flow as well as water quality samples.

Christina joined the group by telephone. She agreed that volunteers could shadow the EPA during their September sampling and get training then. This would be done by working with EPA's two teams of 4 beginning on September 26th. John Hess and Harvey Castro are able to do this. There could be a one day EPA follow-up training in the spring. Christina will find out about how to put together equipment and kits. Lab work for all events is fine but uncertain about the costs/availability of kits. Christina indicated that the lab needs a good amount of lead time because they are busy - it takes about six to eight weeks to get the results back.

There was a discussion about how to best handle the e coli sampling the CCWC would like done as well as the sampling of nitrates and phosphorous as these have different, fast hold times. Christina will send Steve an email with the sites EPA decides to sample its self. Some may overlap with CCWC but it isn't likely they will sample all the sites CCWC wants done.

The consensus was to take the EPA up on the testing and training. Some folks may still attend the Riverwatch training in Grand Junction in October.

The group discussed following up with the USGS on its investigation in Redwell Basin on Oh Be Joyful. This study is to try to determine if discharges in Redwell are connected to Standard Mine. This is being done to assist the EPA in determining what they will need to do in remediating the mine.

EPA is also trying to determine when to have its next CAG meeting. The CAG is the steering committee plus two citizens.

The group next discussed the need for a project manager. The group desires this person to be certified already to take water quality samples, but do not yet need someone who knows how to analyze the data, just managing samples and implementation of the plan. This person will need to be flexible in terms of when work will really begin - depends a bit on the weather and training. By Sept 15th, contract employee of Town of Crested Butte. Because of the cost savings by using the EPA lab for our water sampling, we decided to put out a RFP immediately for a Project Manager.